

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00441 211856Z

70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /063 W

----- 107938

R 211710Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5289

INFO CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IC UR

SUBJECT: MORGUNBLADID PURSUES ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN TO COALITION'S DISCOMFORT

1. INDEPENDENCE (CONSERVATIVE) PARTY'S DAILY MORGUNBLADID ON APRIL 19 GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO ALLEGED ESPIONAGE CAREER OF NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO ICELAND, GEORGIY FARAFONOV. PAPER CITED 1967 ARTICLE BY C.L.SULZBERGER IN N.Y. TIMES IN WHICH FARAFONOV WAS REPORTEDLY DESCRIBED AS "NEW TYPE OF SOVIET SPY" WITH "DIRECT LINK TO INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY." SPECIFICALLY, FARAFONOV ALLEGEDLY "WORKED FOR KGB IN STOCKHOLM FOR EIGHT YEARS," ACCORDING TO QUOTE FROM SULZBERGER.

2. COMMENT: THIS IS THIRD SUCH ALLEGATION BY MORGUNBLADID AGAINST FARAFONOV SINCE HIS ARRIVAL HERE LAST MONTH. MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT REPRESENTS CONTINUATION OF PAPER'S OUTSPOKEN CAMPAIGN OF CRITICIZING SOVIETS WHICH BEGAN 10 DAYS AGO WITH EDITORIAL

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WARNING OF INCREASED SOVIET INFLUENCE IN WAKE OF FONMIN AGUSTSSON'S

USSR VISIT AND CONTINUED WITH SERIES OF ARTICLES AND COMMENT IN
SAME VEIN. MORGUNBLADID'S CRITICAL TREATMENT OF GOI-SOVIET
RELATIONS HAS PUT SOMETHING OF A STRAIN ON COALITION, AND HAS
BECOME PERSONAL EMBARRASSMENT BOTH TO FONMIN, WHO HAS BEEN
FORCED TO DEFEND WHAT HE HAD REGARDED AS FRUITFUL AND
TRIUMPHAL TRIP, AND TO PRIME MINISTER, WHO IS CLOSELY LINKED
PERSONALLY AND THROUGH INDEPENDENCE PARTY TO MORGUNBLADID BUT
WHO IS UNABLE TO EXERCISE ANY CONTROL OVER EDITORIAL POLICY.
IRVING

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